

Estonian Research Agreement
A social agreement to ensure the further development of Estonian research and innovation

Sharing the common belief that research, development and innovation are strategically important for the well-being of the Estonian people and sustainability of society,

the parties to this agreement confirm the need to guarantee the performance of the objectives agreed upon in the Estonian Research and Development and Innovation Strategy 2014–2020 “Knowledge-Based Estonia” and undertake to commit to the achievement of these objectives. For this purpose, they agree upon the following:

1. the undersigned political parties, represented by their Chairpersons, are in favour of increasing the public funding of research, development and innovation to 1% of the gross domestic product and maintaining it at least on the same level in the future. To this end, the parties agree that it will be specified in the 2019 state budget strategy that the target level is to be reached within three years with the addition of equal funding amounts;
2. Estonian research institutions, represented by the President of the Board of Universities Estonia, an association uniting Estonian public universities, affirm that research institutions will establish the institutional arrangements required for conducting and providing further incentive for performing high quality research and cooperation between researchers and entrepreneurs;
3. Estonian researchers, represented by the President of the Estonian Academy of Sciences and the President of the Estonian Young Academy of Sciences, affirm that Estonian researchers will do their best to ensure that the resources at their disposal are used for research and development in a way that guarantees a balance between basic and applied research, with the primary focus on developing fields aimed at the advancement of the Estonian economy and society;
4. Estonia’s largest business enterprise organisations, represented by the President of the Board of the Estonian Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Chairman of the Estonian Employers’ Confederation, affirm their readiness to contribute to making the Estonian economy more innovative and finding solutions for improving cooperation with Estonian researchers and research institutions.

Tallinn, 19 December 2018

Jüri Ratas, Chairman of the Estonian Centre Party

Kaja Kallas, Chairwoman of the Estonian Reform Party

Kaul Nurm, Chairman of the Estonian Free Party

Mihkel Kangur, authorised representative of the Biodiversity Party

Kristina Kallas, Chairwoman of Estonia 200

Züleyxa Izmailova, Chairwoman of Estonian Greens

Helir-Valdor Seeder, Chairman of Pro Patria

Jevgeni Ossinovski, Chairman of the Social Democratic Party

Mait Klaassen, President of the Board of Universities Estonia

Tarmo Soomere, President of the Estonian Academy of Sciences

Els Heinsalu, President of the Estonian Young Academy of Sciences

Toomas Luman, President of the Board of the Estonian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Toomas Tamsar, Chairman of the Estonian Employers' Confederation